President.—You said the matter was being considered from the commencement of 1102. The further question was whether the attention of the Government was not drawn to this before the commencement of 1102. Then you said 'Yes'. Then, did not the commencement of consideration begin at that time?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—We cannot say that the proposals were actually before the Government before 1102. There have been some references on the subject; that is all.

President.—When did the proposal come up before the Government for consideration?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Some time last year the question came up for the consideration of the department, and these proposals were submitted to the Government in the beginning of this year, and, therefore, there were no proposals before the Government before the commencement of this year.

President.—You must speak a little louder; otherwise we won't be able to hear you.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—In answer to question No. 196 of the budget session, 1101, the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats said that he would consider this question.

Coffee, tea, etc., plantations in the State.

13. **Dr. A. G. Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the number of coffee, tea and rubber plantations in the State;

(2) whether proper accommodations are provided for the coolies working in the plantations;

(3) is there any officer in the State to inspect those cooly colonies; if the answer is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to place on the table the report of the officer from 1098 to 1102;

(4) what were the most prevalent diseases in each of the colonies during 1097, 1098, 1099, 1100 and 1101;

(5) the total number of coolies in each of the estates in the years 1097, 1098, 1099, 1100 and 1101;

(6) the death rates in those estates for the years 1097, 1098, 1099, 1100 and 1101?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(1) *Vide Appendix V.*

(2) Yes, so far as Government are aware.

(3) There is no officer to inspect these cooly colonies.

(4) Malaria, diarrhœa and dysentery.

(5) and (6) A statement giving the information available is appended. (*Vide Appendix VI.*)

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Dr. A. G. Menon.—In answer to the first point, the Government have said "Yes, so far as the Government are aware." In regard to the third, they have said "There is no special officer deputed for that work." How did the Government come to that conclusion? In what way did the Government ascertain the condition of these cooly lines? How did the Government arrive at the conclusion that they are accommodated in good sheds?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Almost all these estates form part of the Reserve Forests. So, in my going round the Reserve Forests, I had to go through the estates, and then I enquired whether the cooly accommodation was in good condition.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Is it the personal statement of the Conservator of Forests?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—It is the statement of the Conservator of Forests, under whom these estates are.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—In the answer it is said that there is no special officer.

President.—There is the department with the Conservator and his assistants. They look into these matters. There is no special officer.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—My question was to that effect.

President.—The Conservator and his assistants look to these also as part of their duty.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Since they form part of the Reserve Forests.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Do you get any allowance for that?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—It forms part of their duty, and so I said "no special officer is deputed."

President.—The point is not clear? There may not be a special officer. In the course of their executive work, they attend to these matters.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—When they go through them, they just enquire casually.

President.—What is their work? Is that a point for inspection?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Am I to understand that you make a halt in one of these tea or coffee estates, and then go to the other side?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—I go through these estates to other forests.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Did you come to know at any time that any of the cooly colonies was in damaged condition and report it to Government?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—There were some, but no coolies occupied them.

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Dr. A. G. Menon.—Did you bring this to the notice of the Government?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—There is no necessity for that. When the number of coolies comes down, they do not look after those huts. There is no special case.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Is there no special case?

President.—Have you got any special case, Dr. A. G. Menon?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Some of the Moplah coolies from the Walluvanad and Ernad taluks told me that the condition there was very miserable. So do the coolies from Pudukkad plantations also complain.

President.—Do you know the particular estate? Then we will see to it.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I am not able to mention the particular estates. I put the question only for information.

President.—At times when work is over, and when the malarial season begins, these coolies come to the plains, and their dwelling in the hills are neglected.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—When the next season begins, they go again and repair them. They are built of bamboos; they are not tiled huts, and so there will be a little damage.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Naturally some coolies come to me also with malaria and some other diseases, and tell me that the conditions there are not very satisfactory, the hygienic condition especially.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Can the Member specify the particular estate?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I cannot specify. I was told that the condition of the coolies in the Pudukkad estates was not satisfactory. The Conservator says he goes there. Can he say that any of the lines he has inspected is in good condition?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—I have inspected almost all of them, and they are in good condition.

Dr. A. G Menon.—Did you spend a day in each of the colonies? In your visits to the cooly sheds, do you not peep into the lines and ascertain the condition of the lines or do you only walk along the road? It is only for information and with no other object that I ask the question.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—The cooly lines are along the roads, and I peep in also.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—So many come to me and tell me that the lines are not in good condition.

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President.—But at any time has it been brought to your notice that these lines are in a damaged condition? Have coolies come to you and represented any grievance?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—They are awfully afraid of the Conservator.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Unless there is a complaint—

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Complaints will never come to the Conservator.

President.—There are very many coolies working in the estates, and to enquire whether they are in a happy condition is a humanitarian task.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—They will never say that they are not happy.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—The only persons whom we can ask are the manager and the superintendent.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—They, of course, naturally say that they are in good condition. If only the Conservator by himself have asked the coolies separately, he might have heard a different story. If he asks them in the presence of the bigwigs, they will always answer supporting their masters.

The raising of the Jurisdiction of the Munsiffs' Courts.

14. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to place on the table the papers connected with the proposals made by the Chief Court when the jurisdiction of the Munsiffs' Courts was raised (about 1079)?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The file of correspondence that took place in 1074 is placed on the Council Secretary's table.

The raising of the Chittur Girls School to a High School.

15. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state how many petitions they have received praying for the raising of the Chittur Girls' School to a high school, and what their replies were for them?

Mr. C. Matthai.—One petition was received and it was disposed of in D. P. Dis. 2375/D/1102, dated 6th May 1927. A copy of the order is appended. (*Vide Appendix VII.*)

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—May I know, Sir, with whom rests the decision of accommodation?

Mr. C. Matthai.—With the Government, of course.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—My question is based on the order to a petition. That petition was disposed of, saying, "without first deciding the question of accommodation, Government do not consider it advisable to sanction the starting of the high

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APPENDIX V.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 13.)

Names of estates.

No.	Name	Nature	Location
1	Shernally	Rubber	4 miles east of the foot of ghat
2	Pothunda	Coffee	5 miles south of No. 1
3	Chandramalla	do	7 miles south of No. 2
4	Cotengady	do	1 mile east of No. 3
5	Wallia Varum	do	5 miles north of No. 4
6	Thuthampara	do	11 miles south-west of No. 5
7	Lily	do	2 miles west of No. 6
8	(Poothupara) Manalar	Coffee and tea	2 miles west of No. 7
9	Karady Malai	Coffee	4 miles south of No. 8
10	Karapara	do	3 miles south of No. 9
11	Victoria Group	Coffee and Rubber	5 miles north of No. 10
12	Vaniampara	Rubber and coffee	Vaniampara in Trichur Taluk
13	Vellanikkara	Rubber	Vellanikkara do
14	Anappara Group	Rubber and coffee	Anappara do
15	Rajakumar	Rubber	Vellanikkara do
16	Vellippara Estate	do	Near Pazhayannur in Talappalli Taluk
17	Vellarkad	do	At Vellarkad in do
18	Pymkulam	do	At Pymkulam in do
19	*Mooply Valley Rubber Company*		
	1 Palappilli	Rubber	Mooply Valley in Mukundapuram Taluk
	2 Karukulam	do	
	3 Kundayi	do	
	4 Chakkiparamba	do	
	5 Elikode	do	
	6 Erappanapara	do	
	7 Mooply	do	
	8 Valiakulam	Tea	
20	*Estates owned by the Mysore Rubber Company.*		
	1 Mysore	Rubber	Near Pudukkad Estate
	2 Chemmony	do	
21	*Estate owned by Pudukad Rubber Company.*		
	1 Pudukad	Rubber and coffee	Near Varandarappalli

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APPENDIX VI.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 13.)

No.	Name	No. of coolies					No. of deaths				
		1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1097	1098	1099	1100	1101
1	Shenally ...	100	114	106	120	101	1	1	15	3	4
2	Pothunda ...			70	110	120			2	6	2
3	Chandramalla ...			80	80	100			4	8	3
4	Cotengady ..			8	120	90			3	15	12
5	Wallia Varum ..			70	75	90			4	6	2
6	Thuthampara ..	Not available								3	1
7	Lily ...	70	70	70	70	70	2	1	4	5	6
8	Manalur ...	80	80	80	80	80		3	5	2	7
9	Karadimalai ...	90	90	90	90	90		1	6	2	4
10	Karapara ...	97	97	104	104	110		1	4		6
11	Victoria Group ..	130	111	118	75	109	3	4	2	1	1
		1097	1098	1099	1100	1101					
12	Vaniampara ...				219	299				5	4
13	Vellanikkara ...	380	400	375	372	380	2	4	3		2
14	Anappara Group ...	Daily average of local coolies 50					No deaths				
15	Rajakumar ..	Daily average of local coolies 13					No deaths				
16	Vellippara Estate				30	35	No deaths				
17	Vellarkad ..	300 coolies were working during the whole year from 1099					No deaths				
18	Pymkulam ...	On the average of 10 coolies per day from 1097					No deaths				

With regard to the rest of the estates no information is available.

APPENDIX VII.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 15.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIWAN OF COCHIN.

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT.

(Education).

READ correspondence ending with P. 873/1102, dated 30th March 1927 from the Director of Public Instruction.

Order dated 6th May 1927, Dis. No. 2375/D/1102.

Any extension of the Girls' School building on the present site is neither possible nor desirable. Without first deciding the question of accommodation Government do not consider it advisable to sanction the starting of the High School classes.

(True extract)
(Signed)
Secretary to the Diwan.

To
The Director of Public Instruction.

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